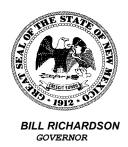
State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT



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Environment Department to Offer Free Water Testing in Reserve, Saturday, August 28

(Santa Fe, NM) - The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau, in cooperation with the Catron County Health Council, will offer free testing of water from private domestic wells to residents of Catron County this Saturday, August 28, 2004.

The free testing for pH, conductivity, organic vapors, nitrate, sulfate, fluoride, and iron will be held from 9 am to 4 pm at the Catron County Fairgrounds, Hwy 12, approximately 1 mile west of Reserve.

In order to be tested, samples must be at least one quart in volume, freshly drawn from a cold water tap and brought in a covered, clean glass or plastic container that did not previously contain milk, pickles, juice, or other substances with strong odor. If possible, samples should be collected before passing through any water treatment system, such as a water softener, reverse osmosis, or an activated carbon filter.

For further information contact Jerzy Kulis, NMED, Ground Water Bureau at (505) 827-2828 or Jon Goldstein, NMED, Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.